

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF  
NORTON.



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Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

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FOR THE YEAR 1938.



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# NORTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.*

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Report for the year ending 31st December, 1938.

It should be remembered that the various statistics given now refer to the enlarged District as created by the addition of parts of the old Sherburn Rural, Pocklington Rural and Driffeld Rural Districts.

## STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA.

Area (in Acres) 94,132.

Population (Census 1931) - 7328.

Registrar General's estimate of resident population 7430.

Number of inhabited houses (1931) - 1235.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books 2076.

Number of Families or separate occupiers Census 1931 - 1903.

Rateable Value £19,226.

Sum represented by a penny rate £72.

The area is purely Agricultural and the inhabitants dependent upon the condition of this for their welfare.

The population shows a gradual decline.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

The following are some Extracts from the Vital Statistics as provided by the Registrar General for the area for the year :—

		Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	{	Legitimate	100	54	46	} Birth Rate per 1000 population 15.7
		Illegitimate	15	7	8	
		Total	115	61	54	
Still Births	{	Legitimate	1	0	1	} Rate per 1000 population 0.4
		Illegitimate	1	0	1	
		Total	2	0	2	
Deaths	...	...	...	81	32	49

Death Rate per 1000 population - 10.2

Compared with last year the Birth Rate has increased and the Death Rate decreased and the balance is even more in our favour than last year.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.	Total	M.	F.
	Legitimate	2	4
	Illegitimate	-	-

Death rate of all Infants per 1000 births 53.1

Our Birth Rate compares satisfactorily with that for England & Wales 15.1. Our Death Rate being lower than that for the whole country 11.6.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. L. C. WALKER, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
(Part-time Officer)

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor : Meat Inspector, Inspector under the Milk and Dairies Order, Inspector under Petrol- eum Acts, and Factory and Workshops Acts also Building Inspector.	}	P. IANSON, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. Holds Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board. Also Liverpool Univer- sity School of Hygiene Cer- tificate in Sanitary Science.
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Resigned 24th July, 1938.

Appointed 1st September, 1938, O. MILBURN, Cert. S.I.B.,  
M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector.

Nursing in the Home. No arrangements made in area.

Midwives.

The following Midwives resident in the Norton Rural District  
notified their Intention to Practice during 1938 :-

May Curl, Ganton.

Ethel May Eggleton, Settrington.

Ida Lilian Gertrude Walters, Norcliffe Arms, Langton.

Elsie May Griffin, Shardale, Wintringham.

It should be noted however, that Nurse Eggleton surrendered  
her Certificate under the provisions of the Midwives Act, 1936,  
during the year and claimed compensation therefor.

National Health Insurance. No observations made.

Poor Law Medical Out Relief. No observations made.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided for the examination or analysis of clinical



material such as swabs, sputum, etc. and of water, milk and food-stuffs (if necessary), the work being done by the Clinical Research Association, London, and the North Riding Laboratory, Scarborough.

#### 5. Legislation in Force.

- I. Regulations with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops.
- II. Council vested with urban powers with respect to fires.
- III. Byelaws with respect to New Buildings.

#### Hospitals.

There are no public or voluntary hospitals in the area. The Hospital at Malton is the one used by the larger part of the District whilst those at Scarborough and York are used by the outlying areas near to those towns. Leeds General Infirmary is also used to a considerable extent. Malton and Norton Hospital contains Male and Female Wards of 10 beds each, a children's ward of four cots and three private wards. It is available for all general surgical work and for suitable medical cases but not tuberculosis. Venereal Disease cases are sent to clinics at York and Scarborough. Orthopaedic cases may be sent to the Hospital at Kirbymoorside, clinics being held periodically at Malton and other centres.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

None.

#### Maternal Mortality.

No special arrangements are made for the investigation of maternal deaths.

Unmarried Mothers and Mental Defectives are under the care of the East Riding County Council and are admitted to the Poor Law Infirmary at Driffield.

#### Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulance Facilities are provided for

- (a) Infectious Disease cases by the East Riding Isolation Hospital Committee.
- (b) Non-infectious Disease and accident cases by the Malton Motor Ambulance.

The latter is in charge of a Committee, and the St. John Ambulance Brigade have done most useful work during the year, being always ready to help. Voluntary Drivers act as Chauffeurs and cases are expected to pay sufficient to cover expenses.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER SUPPLY.

During the year under review four regional schemes of water supply have been maintained by the Rural District Council, which supply water to the parishes of Acklam, Burythorpe, Foxholes, Ganton, Heslerton, Kirby Grindalythe, Langton, Luttons, Rillington, Scagglethorpe, Scampston, Scrayingham, Sherburn, Weaverthorpe, Westow, Wharram, Willerby and Wintringham. These regional schemes together with parochial schemes at Leavening, Rillington, Settrington, Thixendale and Yedingham provide a piped supply of water to the whole of the District.

Samples of the water have been taken and submitted for analyses and the reports show the water to be fit for all domestic purposes in all cases.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

In consequence of the water supply which is now available an improvement in the drainage and sewerage of this area may be expected to take place, and already some properties are being put on to water carriage system.

Unfortunately, however, the financial resources of the district preclude more up-to-date and adequate sewerage and drainage schemes.

It can only be hoped that the Ministry will soon be in a position to make grants to Rural areas in order to assist them in this matter.

In many cases the sanitary arrangements in the Schools also require improving and they should eventually be added to those to be put into water carriage systems.

### SCAVENGING.

Periodical Inspections of all privies and cesspools have been undertaken from time to time. Indiscriminate tipping of refuse has been checked in many instances by the inauguration of schemes for "Controlled Tipping" in several of the parishes. These schemes are now in operation in the Parishes of Acklam, Birdsall, Burythorpe, Foxholes, Langton, Leavening, Luttons, Rillington, Settrington, Sherburn, Wharram, Thixendale, Weaverthorpe, Westow, Willerby and Wintringham and other Parishes are being brought into these schemes. At Westow regular street sweeping is carried out.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Nothing of great importance has occurred in connection with factories and workshops. Visits have been made and instructions given for cleansing where necessary.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year :—

Housing, Nuisances under Public Health Acts, Water Supplies, Meat, Milk and Dairies Order, Sewage, Drainage, Repairs, Infectious Diseases, Disinfection, Petroleum and Carbide of Calcium.

(a)	No. of Inspections	2,496.		
(b)	No. of statutory and informal notices served during the year, under the Public Health Acts for the Abatement of nuisances, etc.			
		Statutory	...	Nil
		Informal	...	24
	Statutory & Informal notices complied with	...	...	24

## NUISANCES.

As in previous years nuisances varied in character. The frequency with which the district is covered however, enables your officer to detect any condition likely to be prejudicial to the Public in any way. The policy of prompt action to prevent such conditions developing as resulted in complete absence of any condition likely to endanger public health. The old adage is constantly borne in mind that "Prevention is better than cure" and the results of such a policy have more than repaid your officers.

## NOTICES FOR ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

Despite the year's activities in regard to nuisances, sanitary or structural improvements - it was found unnecessary to serve a Statutory Notice to enforce the Council's requirements. There have been more meetings with owners and others than during the previous year. Invariably these took place on the spot and the results achieved have been most satisfactory. Good will and Co-operation has enabled much useful work to be carried out in the effort to provide clean and healthy conditions.



## COMPLAINTS.

Though complaints were of a widely different nature, none were really serious. All were investigated and appropriate action taken, particularly in matters affecting Public Health.

## PETROLEUM ACTS.

Regular Visits of inspection have been made to premises where petroleum spirit is stored under licence. There are 31 persons who hold licences to store Petrol and 8 to store carbide. Three New Applications for licence to store petroleum spirit were received during the year under review all of which were approved.

## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Houses disinfected	...	...	47
New drains and repairs	...	...	24
Structural repairs	...	...	6
New water supplies and repairs	...	...	86

## SCHOOLS.

Sanitary conditions of Schools in the District are on the whole fair and in consequence of the water supply which is now available over a large part of the area, it is hoped that before long many will be put on the water carriage system.

## HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year.

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under b)	66
(I)	By the local authority	60
(II)	By other local authorities	-
(III)	By other bodies and persons	6
(b)	With State assistance under the Housing Acts	60
1.	Inspection of Dwelling-houses during year :-	
1.	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	187
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	346
2.	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Act 1936	169
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	248

## 7.

3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation, Sections 9, 11 & 12 Housing Act 1936	6
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, Section 9 Housing Act 1936	49
2.	Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :-  Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	17
3.	Action under statutory Powers during the Year :-	
	A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
	1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	-
	2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :-	
	(a) By owners	16
	(b) By local authority in lieu of owners	-
	B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
	1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	-
	2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By owners (after order by the Court)	-
	(b) By local authority in default of owners	-
	C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 12 and 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
	1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	58
	2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2
	3. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	12

## HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Housing matters within the District have been put on a most satisfactory basis and work under the 1936 Housing Act has been progressing favourably.

With the addition of the areas from other districts it was found that there was complete chaos in certain parishes and the Council decided to revise the methods of the whole district.

The District was divided into four areas these being comprised of the following parishes :-

1. Willerby, Ganton, Sherburn, East and West Heslerton and Yedingham.
2. Foxholes, Weaverthorpe, Luttons, Kirby Grindalythe, Wharram, North Grimston and Kennythorpe.
3. Rillington, Scagglethorpe, Scampston, Settrington, Thorpe Bassett and Wintringham.
4. Acklam with Barthorpe, Birdsall, Burythorpe, Firby, Howsham, Langton, Leavening, Scrayingham, Thixendale and Westow.

At present No. 1 and No. 2 Areas & Rillington are completed.

Inquiries have been held by the Ministry of Health into appeals against Clearance Orders and the findings of the Minister have in the main coincided with the actions taken by the Rural District Council.

The following tables show the position on 31st December, 1938.

(1) No. of working class houses found to be overcrowded and their location.	Birdsall	1	Bt. fwd.	6
	Burythorpe	2	Rillington	3
	Foxholes	2	Thixendale	3
	Leavening	1	Wharram	1
	Total	6	Total	13

(2) No. of working class houses found to be unsatisfactory for reasons other than overcrowding, and their location showing in what respects the houses were unsatisfactory.	Parish.	Sect: 25 1936 Act.	Sect: 9 1936 Act.	Sect: 11 1936 Act.	Sect: 12 1936 Act.	Total
	Willerby	19	17	3	2	41
	Ganton (incl. Potter Brompton)	3	19	13	Nil.	35
	Sherburn	32	16	10	2	60
	Heslerton	Nil.	12	11	Nil.	23
	Yedingham	5	3	1	Nil.	9
	North					
	Grimston	3	1	3	Nil.	7
	Kenny-					
	thorpe	9	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	9
	Foxholes	14	9	6	Nil.	29
	Kirby					
	Grindalythe	4	8	Nil.	Nil.	12
	Luttons	14	29	3	Nil.	46
	Rillington	50	20	3	Nil.	73
	Weaver-					
	thorpe	34	21	6	Nil.	61
	Wharram	4	6	1	Nil.	11
	Total	191	161	60	4	416
(3) Action taken by the Rural District Council to deal with the housing conditions referred to in (1) and (2) above.	(1) Owners have been circulated and in some cases rearrangement of tenants has been made possible. The Council have also formulated a building programme to deal with the remainder.					
	(2) Necessary action is now proceeding under the Housing Act, 1936, in the form of an extensive survey of all the working class houses. The District having been divided into four areas and Areas No. 1 and No. 2 being completed.					
(4) No. of (a) overcrowded houses referred to in (1) above and (b) unsatisfactory houses referred to (2) above which at the 31st Dec. 1938 were still over-crowded or unsatisfactory.	(a)	13				
	(b)	416				



(5) Total number of working class houses erected by the Rural District Council during the year and their location.	<table> <tr><td>Heslerton</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Sherburn</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>Willerby</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>Yedingham</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td><hr/>60<hr/></td></tr> </table>	Heslerton	4	Sherburn	30	Willerby	20	Yedingham	6		<hr/> 60 <hr/>				
Heslerton	4														
Sherburn	30														
Willerby	20														
Yedingham	6														
	<hr/> 60 <hr/>														
(6) No. of working class houses contemplated for erection by the Rural District Council in the year ending 31st December, 1939.	<table> <tr><td>Foxholes</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>Butterwick</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Weaverthorpe</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>Luttons</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>Kennythorpe</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>Rillington</td><td>48</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td><hr/>116<hr/></td></tr> </table>	Foxholes	14	Butterwick	2	Weaverthorpe	30	Luttons	14	Kennythorpe	8	Rillington	48		<hr/> 116 <hr/>
Foxholes	14														
Butterwick	2														
Weaverthorpe	30														
Luttons	14														
Kennythorpe	8														
Rillington	48														
	<hr/> 116 <hr/>														
(7) Any other information as to overcrowding or unsatisfactory housing conditions in the District.	<p>As a result of the housing activity displayed by the Council, a larger volume of work was carried out last year than at any time since the inception of the Housing Acts. Both the General Housing Conditions and the problem of overcrowding have been tackled by the Council in a commendable manner. There have been more meetings with owners, agents and builders, than ever before and in consequence expenditure on rehousing work has reached a high figure.</p>														

#### EXTENT TO WHICH HOUSES HAVE NO WATER CLOSET OR OTHER ADEQUATE ACCOMMODATION WITHIN THEIR OWN CURTILAGE.

With a few exceptions the closet accommodation is within the curtilage of each. The difficulty in a number of cases is rather that the objectionable ash-pit privy is placed in too close proximity to the dwelling.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

##### (a) Milk Supply.

All dairies and farms supplying milk are inspected periodically and any necessary action taken.

No cases have been reported or found of any cows suffering from tuberculosis or emaciation due to tuberculosis of the udder. The cowsheds and dairies are as a whole kept in fairly good condition. No licences have been granted for the Sale of Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1923.

Refusal or revocation of registration or retailers of licences for graded milk ... Nil.

(b) Meat Inspection.

Inspections of meat, slaughter-houses etc. are carried out by the Sanitary Inspector who has had practical experience in public abbatoirs, private slaughter-houses, fish, fruit, and vegetable markets.

All the slaughter-houses (9) are entered and recorded under the Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924, for regular and occasional slaughter.

Regular visits to all licensed and registered Slaughter-houses, both whilst slaughtering was in progress and at other times, ensured that the Regulations for removal of Offal, etc., were complied with.

The following was condemned as unfit for human consumption : 1246 lbs beef ; 124 lbs pork ; 148 lbs Mutton, and 345 lbs of offal. No arrangements have been made for the disposal of such meat, nor have Slaughter Bye-laws been adopted.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following cases were notified :-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	36
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These cases were scattered over the district and occurred at different times of the year.

Diphtheria	...	...	...	4
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The following cases were notified :-

	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	1 (age 40)	-	1
Non-Pulmonary	1 (age 30)	-	1

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

			M.	F.
ALL CAUSES	...	...	32	49
Influenza	...	...	1	0
Cancer	...	...	4	7
Diabetes	...	...	1	1
Cerebral hæmorrhage	...	...	0	4
Heart disease	...	...	4	16
Other circulatory	...	...	3	4
Bronchitis	...	...	2	0
Pneumonia	...	...	0	2
Nephritis	...	...	1	2
Senility	...	...	1	1
Violence	...	...	1	2
Other defined causes	...	...	8	4
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	1	0
Suicide	...	...	1	0
Appendicitis	...	...	1	0
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	...	...	1	4
G.P.I. Tabes, etc.	...	...	1	0
Other Puerperal	...	...	0	1
Tuberculosis, Respiratory System	...	...	1	0
Other Tuberculosis	...	...	0	1
<hr/>				
Deaths of Infants	Total	...	2	4
under 1 year	Legitimate	...	2	4
	Illegitimate	...	0	0
<hr/>				
Live Births	Total	...	61	54
	Legitimate	...	54	46
	Illegitimate	...	7	8
<hr/>				
Still Births	Total	...	1	2
	Legitimate	...	0	1
	Illegitimate	...	1	1
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POPULATION ... 7,430

Comparability Factor 0·89.

Birth-rates, Death-rates Analysis of  
Mortality, Maternal Death-rates,  
and Case-rates for certain Infectious  
Diseases in the year 1938.

England and Wales, London 126  
Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales.	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County.
Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Births :-				
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
Deaths :-				
All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers }	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	-	0.00	-
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
Notifications :-				
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Scarlet fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age }	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
Maternal Mortality :-				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	}	Not available	
Others	2.19			
Total	3.08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)				
Maternal Mortality :-				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	}	Not available	
Others	2.11			
Total	2.97			
Notifications :-				
Puerperal fever Puerperal pyrexia }	14.42	18.08	12.51	{ 3.53 15.46









